

The contents of this amendment is

incorporated in Examiner's Amendment
putting the application in condition for allowance.

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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2004

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RE:	09/731,579	FILE:	2000.045200

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE YOUR FILE PLEASE REPLY PLEASE HANDLE
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NOTES/COMMENTS:

Claim Amendments to Examiner's Amendments.

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Examiner Ortiz:

In response to our prior discussion, please refer to the claim amendments provided below.

Amendments were made to independent claims 1, 11, and 21, which are now allowable.

Additionally, as we discussed, independent claims 31, 33, and 35 are allowable as they are.

Therefore, in light of the amendments, all of the independent claims, as well as their respective dependent claims, in the present application are now allowable. Please contact me with any questions or comments. Thank you.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
measuring at least one characteristic parameter [[of processing]] relating to a rapid thermal processing step performed on a workpiece [[in a processing step]];
modeling the at least one characteristic parameter measured using a correlation model; and
applying the correlation model to modify the processing performed in the processing step.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable, program storage device, encoded with instructions that, when executed by a computer, perform a method comprising:
measuring at least one characteristic parameter [[of processing]] relating to a rapid thermal processing step performed on a workpiece [[in a processing step]];.

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Serial No. «SN»

modeling the at least one characteristic parameter measured using a correlation model; and

applying the correlation model to modify the processing performed in the processing step.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer programmed to perform a method comprising:
measuring at least one characteristic parameter [[of processing]] relating to a rapid thermal processing step performed on a workpiece [[in a processing step]];
modeling the at least one characteristic parameter measured using a correlation model; and
applying the correlation model to modify the processing performed in the processing step.